

AMENDMENT &amp; RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

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Serial Number: 09/512,926

Dkt: 875.039US1

Filing Date: February 25, 2000

Title: METHODS TO REDUCE THE SENSITIVITY OF ENDOTHELIAALLY-COMPROMISED VASCULAR SMOOTH MUSCLE

### Remarks

Applicant's attorney thanks Examiner Kim for her courtesies extended in their telephone conference on April 9, 2003. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, further amendments are presented herein.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims, in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein, is respectfully requested. The amendments have been made to clarify the claims in order to expedite prosecution of the present application, and not for reasons of patentability. Therefore, the amendments are not intended to limit the scope of equivalents to which any claim element may be entitled. The amendments to the claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed.

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Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612-373-6961) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By his Representatives,

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Date 10 April 2003By Ann S. Viksnins

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The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile (FAX NO. 703-746-5156) to: Commissioner of Patents, Attn.: Examiner Jennifer Kim, GAU 1617, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 10 day of April, 2003.

Name Ann S. Viksnins

Signature